

17 SEP 1963 OUT51873

1963 SEP 16 23 37Z

TOP SECRET 162108Z

PRIORITY

1174

25X1

CORONA J

REF A. [] 7995 (IN 3584)
 B. [] 3427 (IN 3599)
 C. [] 3148 (IN 3601)

HFS 25X1-

CJS

CFC

PNS 25X1-

ACL

1. AT THIS TIME [] DOES NOT AGREE TO THE RECOMMENDATION UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR DISABLING EITHER ONE SET OR BOTH SETS OF HORIZON CAMERAS FOR J-2. THE HORIZON CAMERAS, THOUGH THEY CONTINUE TO MALFUNCTION, ARE STILL NECESSARY FOR [] DETERMINATION OF CAMERA ATTITUDE.

Grace (m.f.) 25X1

2. CAMERA ATTITUDE DATA IS ESSENTIAL FOR COMPLETE INTELLIGENCE READOUT. ALTHOUGH THE STELLAR CAMERA IS IMPROVING IN ITS PERFORMANCE, IT IS NOT YET RELIABLE ENOUGH TO DEPEND UPON AS THE ONLY SOURCE OF INFORMATION. DUE TO VARIOUS FAILURES IN THE HORIZON CAMERAS [] HAS HAD TO USE BOTH FORWARD AND AFT HORIZONS TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY INFORMATION.

25X1

3. THE HORIZON CAMERAS HAVE BEEN USED IN MANY MISSIONS WITH BOTH SUCCESS AND A VARIETY OF FAILURES, BUT ONLY ONCE HAS THE SHUTTER REMAINED OPEN FOR AN EXTENDED TIME. RECENT TESTING AT [] (REF C) SHOWS THAT THE CAMERAS HAVE NOT FAILED BY REMAINING OPEN FOR ANY EXTENDED PERIOD. TO DISABLE THE HORIZON CAMERAS IS NOT THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, BUT RATHER TO FIX THE CAMERAS AS WE HAVE REQUESTED SEVERAL TIMES.

25X1

4. LISTED BELOW IS A BRIEF SUMMARY ON THE OPERATION OF THE

TOP SECRET

GROUP 1
 Excluded from automatic
 25X1 and
 downgrading

HORIZON CAMERAS FOR THE LAST FOUR MISSIONS:

9054 - FWD: ON 8 FRAMES SHUTTER FAILED TO OPEN. POOR QUALITY - OUT OF FOCUS APPEARANCE. INADEQUATE EXPOSURE 50 PERCENT OF ASCENDING PASSES ON PORT SIDE.

AFT: POOR QUALITY - OUT OF FOCUS APPEARANCE. OVER EXPOSED ON DESCENDING PASSES. UNDER EXPOSED ON ASCENDING PASSES.

9056 - FWD: PORT SIDE NO IMAGES FOR WHOLE PASS - SHUTTER CLOSED.

AFT: PORT SIDE SHUTTER MALFUNCTIONED INTERMITTANTLY. STARBOARD CAMERA HAD 1 FIDUCIAL GO OUT AFTER FRAME 25 PASS D02.

9057 - FWD: SATISFACTORY. ONLY 1 HORIZON USEABLE ON ASCENDING PASSES.

AFT: SHUTTER FAILED TO OPEN ON MAJORITY OF FRAMES BOTH PORT AND STARBOARD.

1001-1 FWD: PORT SHUTTER REMAINED OPEN ON APPROXIMATELY 80 PERCENT OF FRAMES AFTER PASS A34.

AFT: GOOD, ONLY 1 HORIZON USEABLE ON ASCENDING PASSES DUE TO LOW SUN ANGLE.

5. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT DOES NOT SEE THE TOTAL PROBLEM, BUT AT THIS TIME WE CAN NOT AGREE THAT A ONE TIME FAILURE IS CAUSE FOR SHUTDOWN OF ONE OF THE KEY CAMERAS IN THIS SYSTEM.

25X1

T O P S E C R E T

END OF MESSAGE